



Michigan
Office of the Auditor General
REPORT SUMMARY

Performance Audit
Bureau of Substance Abuse and
Addiction Services
Department of Community Health

Report Number:
39-670-03

Released:
July 2005

The Department of Community Health (DCH) created the Bureau of Substance Abuse and Addiction Services (BSAAS) as part of a departmental reorganization in July 2003. This reorganization established BSAAS as the primary agency responsible for substance abuse prevention and treatment services in the State. DCH's substance abuse prevention and treatment programs were originally created by Act 368, P.A. 1978, a part of the Public Health Code.

Audit Objective:

To assess the effectiveness of BSAAS's efforts in evaluating substance abuse program outcomes for reducing and preventing the incidence of substance abuse.

Audit Conclusion:

We concluded that BSAAS's efforts were generally effective in evaluating, and requiring the coordinating agencies (CAs) and service providers to evaluate, substance abuse program outcomes. However, our assessment disclosed reportable conditions related to a program effectiveness evaluation system and the Substance Abuse Treatment Data Collection System (Findings 1 and 2).

Noteworthy Accomplishments:

BSAAS informed us that by working in conjunction with the CAs, BSAAS developed a detailed provider coding instructional manual that covers every filed report in the client quality improvement data. Additionally, an automated error-checking system for each submitted

record was implemented. This system includes the application of over 400 edits to each submitted record. By implementing these efficiencies and quality improvements, the availability and use of data is enhanced for program oversight and accountability.

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Audit Objective:

To assess the effectiveness of BSAAS's monitoring of substance abuse prevention and treatment program providers to ensure compliance with contract requirements.

Audit Conclusion:

We concluded that BSAAS was generally effective in its monitoring of substance abuse prevention and treatment program providers to ensure compliance with contract requirements. However, we noted reportable conditions related to performance and progress reports, fees and collections, audit review procedures, and the monitoring of law enforcement grants (Findings 3 through 6).

Noteworthy Accomplishments:

BSAAS informed us that the Office of Drug Control Policy (ODCP) and Michigan State University developed the Michigan Juvenile Intervention Initiative project, which involves four police departments collaborating with juvenile courts and working with the Michigan Justice Statistics Center to identify and intervene with delinquent youth who are likely to develop more extensive criminal careers. BSAAS informed us that one program, the Grand Rapids Intervention Program, has emerged as a promising model in addressing serious youth violence.

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Audit Objective:

To assess the effectiveness of BSAAS's administration of public funds for substance abuse prevention and treatment programs.

Audit Conclusion:

We concluded that BSAAS was generally effective in administering public funds for substance abuse prevention and treatment programs. However, we noted reportable conditions related to funding methodology and restricted revenue from liquor license fees (Findings 7 and 8).

Noteworthy Accomplishments:

BSAAS informed us that in July 2002, ODCP released the Michigan Methamphetamine Control Strategy, which began the work of the Michigan Methamphetamine Task Force. The Task Force included BSAAS and ODCP; various federal, State, county, and city agencies; and others. In fiscal year 2003-04, BSAAS applied for and received a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. The overall goal of this grant is to develop a Statewide multi-agency infrastructure for the purpose of implementing effective strategies for preventing, reducing, or delaying the use or spread of methamphetamine in high risk communities across the State.

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Agency Response:

Our audit report contains 8 findings and 11 corresponding recommendations. BSAAS's preliminary response indicated that it generally agrees with 10 of the recommendations and disagrees with 1 of the recommendations.

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A copy of the full report can be obtained by calling 517.334.8050 or by visiting our Web site at: <http://audgen.michigan.gov>



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